

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 25. (cancelled)

Claim 26. (currently amended) ~~The recovering method according to claim 24 or 25,~~ A method of recovering a liquid medium from a mixture containing the liquid medium, the method comprising:

contacting the mixture comprising the liquid medium with a first gas to vaporize the liquid medium in a vaporizing means and thereby to form a second gas which is a mixture of the first gas and vaporized liquid medium, and feeding the second gas into a condensing means to condense the vaporized liquid medium and separate the first gas;

using the first gas separated from the liquid medium by condensation as the first gas to be contacted with the liquid medium; and

regulating the partial pressure of the vaporized liquid medium in the vaporizing means by a partial pressure regulating means; wherein

the condensing of the second gas in the condensing means comprises partially condensing the vaporized liquid medium in a first condensing means, and further cooling and completely condensing the vaporized liquid medium in a second condensing means; and

returning a part of the first gas and the vaporized liquid medium discharged from the vaporizing means through a conduit means in the partial pressure regulating means to the vaporizing means while flowing together with the separated first gas without passing through the first condensing means and the second condensing means and regulating the partial pressure of the vaporized liquid medium by controlling the flow rate of the vaporized liquid medium returning to the vaporizing means through the conduit means,

wherein the recovery of the liquid medium is carried out where the first gas is circulated through a closed system under reduced pressure; or vaporization is carried out at a temperature of the boiling point or lower of the liquid medium when the liquid medium is vaporized; or the recovery of the liquid medium is carried out where the first gas is circulated through a closed system under reduced pressure and vaporization is carried out at a

temperature of the boiling point or lower of the liquid medium when the liquid medium is vaporized.

Claim 27. (cancelled)

Claim 28. (currently amended) ~~The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 27~~ A liquid medium recovering device for recovering a liquid medium from a mixture containing the liquid medium, the device comprising:

a first vaporizing means which receives a first gas from a blowing means, said first vaporizing means being operable to vaporize the liquid medium to form a vaporized medium, thereby to form a second gas which is a mixture of the first gas and vaporized liquid medium;

a first conduit means communicating with the first vaporizing means and a second vaporizing means,

the second vaporizing means wherein the counter
~~[[-]] flow contact of the mixture and the second gas is conducted~~
using comprising a double-helical pipe having a straight-pipe distilling ~~portion~~ section and a spiral pipe disposed in the straight-pipe distilling portion section, ~~in which the mixture is allowed~~ and being operable to receive the second gas ~~is~~

passed from the first conduit means to a lower part toward of
the straight pipe distilling section, and allow the second gas
to flow towards an upper part of the vaporizing portion of the
straight pipe distilling section in counter-flow contact with
said mixture flowing down said outer surface of the double
helical pipe, said second vaporizing means being operable to
vaporize additional liquid medium to form a third gas which is a
mixture of the second gas and additional vaporized liquid
medium;

a second conduit means communicating with the second
vaporizing means and with a third condensing means;

the third gas condensing means being operable to condense
the vaporized liquid medium in the third gas delivered from the
second conduit means, thereby to separate the first gas; and

a third conduit means operable to supply the first gas,
separated in the third gas condensing means, to said blowing
means.

Claims 29 to 37. (canceled)